MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Chickasaw Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

MT. PLEASANT CHURCH,

PONTOTOC COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI.

16th, 17th and 18th days of September, A. D. 1864.

MERIDIAN:
PRINTED AT THE CLARION BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.
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MINUTES.

The Delegates composing the Twenty-fifth Anniversary meeting of the Chickasaw Baptist Association, convened with the Mount Pleasant Church, Friday before the third Sabbath in Sept., 1864.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder H. L. Findley, from the 19th verse of the 28th chapter of Mathew, "Go ye therefore and teach all nations," &c.

The Congregation was then dismissed for one hour.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Elder Jas. Boswell in the chair as Moderator.

Prayer by Elder W. L. Farmer.

The Moderator appointed as Reading Clerks Elder D. Potter and Brother J. H. Berry.

When the letters from the several Churches were read, and the names of the Delegates with the statistics entered, for which see Statistical table.

Then went into the election of a Moderator and Clerk, Elders J. J. Andrews and A. J. Forister acting as Tellers of Election, when Elder Jas. Boswell was chosen Moderator and E. Smythe, Clerk.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

On Preaching—J. Sherman and H. T. Pitts with the Deacons of Mt. Pleasant Church.

On Arrangements—J. H. Berry, H. L. Findley, J. T. Pitts, W. L. Farmer and D. Potter.

On the State of Religion—Elders D. Potter, J. Smith and W. L. Reynolds.

On Documents—Elders J. T. Pitts, H. L. Findley and J. H. Berry.

On Finance—Elders W. L. Reynolds and B. B. Barmore.

The Committee on Preaching reported that Elder W. L. Reynolds preach to-night.

Called for Correspondence, when Elders J. J. Andrews and A. J. Forister was received bearing a letter from the Judson Association.

On motion, adjourned to 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer by Elder A. J. Forister.

SATURDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by B. B. Barmore.

The Committee on arrangements made their report, which was adopted, for which see Appendix A.

Received as correspondence from Judson Association Elders E. Moore and Bro. J. Keys.

Spent half an hour in prayer agreeable to the third article in the arrangement of business.

Appointed as correspondence to the Tishemingo Association, Elders D. Potter, J Smith and Bros. D. L. Mitchel and W. A. Funk. J. H. Berry to write.

To the Tippah Association, Elders J. T. Pitts, W. L. Reynolds and Bro. L. D. Adams. H. J. Pitts to write.

To the Judson Association, Elders H. L. Findley, J. T. Pitts, D. Potter, B. B. Barmore, Jas. Boswell, I. Smith and Bro. E. Smythe. Elder W. L. Reynolds to write.

To the Aberdeen Association, Elders H. L. Findley, I. Smith, B. B. Barmore and J. Smith. H. L. Findley to write.

Agreed to hold the next Session of this Body with the Spring Hill Church.

Elder W. L Farmer was elected to preach the next Introductory Sermon, and I. Smith in case of failure.

Called for the report of the Executive Board, when the Chairman asked and obtained further time to make said report.

Called for the Treasurer's report, when he asked for further time which was granted.

The Committee on Documents asked for further time, which was agreed to.

The Committee on Finance asked for and obtained further time to make their report.

The report on the State of Religion was presented, read and adopted, for which see Appendix B.

The Association elected as an Executive Board J. H. Berry, E. Smythe, A. W. Funk, H. T. Pitts and G. B. Grumbrell.

On motion, adjourned to 1 o'clock for the purpose of spending one half hour in prayer, and to hear a Sermon by Elder A. J. Forister. During the adjournment public prayer was offered by J. H. Berry and Elder J. J. Andrews for the blessings of God to rest on our once happy but now distressed land.

Sermon by Elder A. J. Forister. Theme "Christ, the good Shepherd."

EVENING SESSION.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder W. L. Farmer.

The Committee on Finance made their report, which was adopted, for which see Appendix C.

The Committee on Documents made their report, which was adopted, for which see Appendix D.

Corresponding letter to the Judson Association read and adopted.

Corresponding letter to the Aberdeen Association, read and adopted.

Bros. J. H. Berry and H. T. Pitts, who were to write to the Tippah and Tishemingo Associations, asked further time to write with condition that they submit them to the Moderator for his signature and approval.

The Treasurer presented his report, which was read and adopted, for which see Appendix E.

On application, granted a letter of dismission to the Rocky Mount Church.

The Executive Board presented their report through their chairman, which was read and adopted, for which see Appendix F.

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEREAS, Many of our Churches are without Ministerial aid in consequence of the absence of many of our Ministering Brethren and other circumstances surrounding Therefore,

Resolved, By this Body, that we earnestly solicit our Ministering Brethren and respectfully urge upon them the great need of their indefatigable labors in visiting and preaching for the destitute Churches and dispensing in their midst that light for the want of which so many of our race are greatly suffering.

WHEREAS, There is great need of preaching the Gospel in the Confederate armies; and,

WHEREAS, The army regulations places Missionaries on the same footing as Chaplains in regard to rations and protection, Therefore be it,

Resolved, That any Minister from this Association who is disposed to visit any portion of the army to preach the Gospel without compensation, shall be recognized as a Missionary from this Body.

Resolved further, That the Moderator of this Association, is hereby authorized to give a certificate to any brother Minister who may apply for the same, which certificate shall set forth that said Bro. Minister is a regular ordained Minister in good standing in this Body.

Resolved, 1. That this Association has heard with profound regret of the painful and dangerous affliction of our beloved brother Lewis Ball, on the tented field, whilst nobly participating in the defense of our devoted country.

Resolved, 2. That this body unanimously tenders to Bro. Ball our deepest sympathies, and unite in humbly praying to God that his sufferings may be abundantly sanctified to his spiritual and eternal good; and earnestly hope that in the providence of God he may be speedily restored to health and usefulness.

Resolved, 3. That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to Bro. Ball.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and hereby tendered to this church and vicinity for the very kind reception and hospitable entertainment of this body during our present session.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to our moderator and clerk for the faithful manner in which they have discharged their duties in our midst during our present session.

Resolved, That the Clerk be requested to transcribe the Minutes of last year on the Associational book for future reference and preservation.

Resolved, That the Bro. Clerk superintend the printing and distribution of the Minutes, and that he have $20 for his services.

On motion, adjourned.

After a soul-stirring address by the Moderator, a parting hymn was sung, and, in the midst of deep religious feeling, the Association adjourned to meet with the Spring Hill church, seven miles west of the town of Pontotoc, Friday before the 3d Sabbath in September, 1865.

ELIJAH SMYTHE, *Clerk*.

JAS. BOSWELL,
Moderator.

APPENDIX.

A.

THE committee appointed to arrange business for the action of this body beg leave to recommend the following, viz:

1. Read the Rules of Decorum.
2. Call for correspondence and invite ministering brethren to seats with us.
3. That this Association spend a half hour each day of its session in humble and fervent prayer for our beloved country, and for our dear friends now upon the tented field.
4. Appoint persons to write letters of correspondence.
5. Appoint the place for the meeting of the next Association.
6. Elect a minister to preach the introductory sermon.
7. Call for the report of the Executive Board.
8. Call for Treasurer's report.
9. Call for report of committees appointed during the present session.
10. Elect the Executive Board.
11. Appoint messengers to corresponding bodies.
12. Resolutions and miscellaneous business.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY, Ch'n.

B.

The Committee on the State of Religion beg leave to report that whilst our devout gratitude is due to the Giver of all Good for the peace and fellowship which pervade the churches in our bounds, yet we can but deplore the cold and languid state of our beloved Zion. Two or three of our churches only, during the last Associational year, have enjoyed precious revivals, and the number received by experience and baptism has been comparatively small. A portion of our churches have been without pastors or regular preaching, and several have failed to send up letters or delegates. Indeed, in one or two instances, no male members are left at home

to represent the churches. Thus does this cruel war not only shake the foundation of civilized society, but also paralyses the energies of our churches, and seems to cast darkness and gloom over our aspirations and prospects. May God in mercy cause His face to shine upon us and speedily revive His work amongst us and throughout our whole land.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

D. POTTER, Ch'n.

C.

We, your committee to whom was referred the subject of finance, report as follows:

Received for Minutes $86 41

All of which is respect'ly submitted.

W. L. REYNOLDS, Ch'n.

D.

We, your Committee on Documents, ask to report that there has been no documents placed in our hands which we think demands our attention.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. PITTS. Ch'n.

The Union meeting of second district will be held with the Amaziah church, commencing Thursday before second Sabbath in August, A. D. 1865.

E.

1863. ELIJAH SMYTHE, *Treasurer, in Acc't with Chickasaw Association,* DR.

DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Sept. 17.	To am't as per last report	$ 27	96
" 17.	" " public collection Saturday.....	74	00
" 17.	" " " " on Sabbath.....	40	37
		$142	33
	Less one third, it being in old issue of C. S. money.....	47	44

[1864]			$ 94 89	
Sept. 10.	Rec'd of	Cherry Creek church	23 50	
" 17.	" "	Spring Hill church	36 25	
" 17.	" "	Bethel church	21 00	
" 17.	" "	New Hope church	13 34	$188 98

Cr.

[1864.]				
Sept. 17.	By uncurrent funds rec'd 1863		$ 10 00	
" 17	By this am't paid Elder H. L. Findley as missionary,		200 00	$210 00
	Balance due Treasurer			$ 22 02

Sept. 17, 1863.	To am't rec'd of Financial Committee for Minutes		$ 94 75	
	Less one third		31 58	$ 63 17
" 17, 1864.	To am't rec'd of Financial Committee for Minutes			86 41
				$149 58

Dr.

[1863.]			
Dec. 10	To am't rec'd of J. H. Berry	$	20 00
" 10.	" " " H. T. Pitts		5 00
" 10.	" " " A. W. Funk		5 00
" 10.	" " " J. B. Gambrell		5 00
" 10.	" " " E. Smythe		5 00
	Paid this amount, which had been placed in his hands for the purchase of Encyclopædias of Religious Knowledge, which could not be bought		60 00
			$100 00

Cr.

By this am't forwarded to the editor of the "Christian Index" for as many numbers of his paper as the amount would purchase, to be directed to Elders L. Ball and M. P. Lowrey, by them to be distributed in Gen. J. E. Johnston's army as they may think best	$100 00

All of which is respec'ly submitted.

ELIJAH SMYTH, *Treasurer.*

F.

The Executive Board beg leave to report that during the existing war missionary operations within our bounds have been carried on to a very limited extent. We, however, thank God that amidst much discouragement, darkness and gloom, something has been

done in this great work. Your Board had the pleasure to secure the services of our beloved Bro. Findley for a portion of the last Associational year. He occupied two important stations, monthly, one the whole year, the other about half that time. He also labored in destitute neighborhoods, where his efforts have been owned and blessed by the Great Head of the Church He reports 100 days labor and 42 received by experience and baptism.

As will be perceived by the Treasurer's report, your board appropriated $100 to procure as many copies of the "Christian Index" as possible with that sum, for the benefit of our brethren and others in the tented field. $60 of this sum had been designated by the Board, some three years ago, to purchase Encyclopœdias of Religious Knowledge for distribution amongst the young ministers of the Chickasaw, Tippah and Tishemingo Associations. The remaining $40 was contributed by the Board.

In the month of March last, your Board tendered to our beloved brother Lewis Ball an appointment as missionary to labor in (then) Gen. Bragg's army; but the circumstances with which he was then surrounded induced him, through a sense of duty, to decline the appointment.

Now, brethren, the result of another year's labors are before you. We desire humbly to ask forgiveness of God for our past errors and to implore His blessing upon future labors. We trust the day is not far distant when our belove l Zion shall shine forth in our bounds, and put on the beautiful garments of salvation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY, Ch'n.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

NAMES OF CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	Days of Meeting.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Restored.	Dis. by Letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total in Fellowship.	Contributions for Minutes.
Amaziah,	W L Reynolds,	Cornersville,	2	A Ray, S Reynolds, W L Reynolds,	5	..	..	..	..	3	85	$ 5 00
Bethel,	H L Findley,	Rocky Ford,	4	G Pope, Jas Todd, J Martin,	6	..	..	1	2	4	111	5 00
Cherry Creek,	J T Pitts,	Cherry Creek,	2	J T Pitts, H T Pitts, E Smyth,	..	2	1	..	..	10	225	16 25
Cypress Creek,	F M Ferrel,	Lafayette Springs,	4		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Acadoms,		Orizaba,	1		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Friendship,	James Boswell,	Pontotoc,	3	J Sauter,	..	..	..	..	..	..	30	2 00
Liberty,	James Boswell,	Tardyville,	4	Jas Boswell. No letter or statistics.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Fellowship,	James Boswell,	Claysville.	3	J H Berry L D Adams, R H Cook,	..	1	..	1	3	1	82	9 33
New Hope,	H L Findley,	Pontotoc,	1	J Smith, H Pitts, Wm Easterwood,	11	..	1	..	2	..	100	.....
Mount Pisgah	I Smith,	Rocky Ford,	3	J Shurman, A Beard J M Mitchell,	2	..	1	..	1	1	86	.....
Mount Pleasant,	I Smith,	Wallerville,	1	I Smith, D Potter, S Allen,	..	5	3	..	..	2	134	.....
Pleasant Hill, P.,	I Smith,	Molino,	4	W C Gillan, W Bennet,	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	5 00
Pleasant Hill, T.,		Salem,	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Philadelphia,			..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Shady Grove,			..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Salem,			..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Indian Creek,	H L Findley.	Pontotoc,	2	H L Findley, B B Barmore, F Sauter,	15	4	5	..	4	2	132	11 75
Spring Hill,	J H Prescott,	Pine Grove,	3		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Pine Grove,	T Gorly,	Tocopola,	4	T Garley, J Crossley, B A Carpenter,	..	5	5	..	..	..	57	9 00
Piney Grove,		Lafayette Springs,	3		1	..	..	..	1	..	25	6 50
Washington,	W L Farmer,	Moody,	3	W L Farmer, J E Beatright, E Butler,	2	..	..	3	..	1	52	.....
Temperance Hill,	James Boswell,	Hillstown,	2		6	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....
Pleasant Ridge,					..	..	..	..	..	..	.....	.....
Spring Creek,												

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MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Chickasaw Association

HELD AT THE

CHERRY CREEK CHURCH,

ON THE

14th, 15th, 16th, 17th and 18th days of September, 1866.

MEMPHIS.
C. F. CHAMBERLIN & CO., PRINTERS AND STATIONERS,
197 MAIN STREET, WEBSTER BLOCK.
1866.

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MINUTES.

CHERRY CREEK CHURCH, PONTOTOC CO., MISS., }
September 14th, 1866. }

The Delegates composing the Twenty-Seventh Annual Session of the CHICKASAW ASSOCIATION convened with the Cherry Creek Church on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1866.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder H. L. Findley, from the latter clause of the 18th verse of the 2d chapter of Nehemiah: "And they said, let us rise up and build; so they strengthened their hands for this work;" when the congregation was dismissed for one hour.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Met. Elder L. Ball in the chair as Moderator.

Prayer by Elder A. L. Stoval.

The Moderator appointed as Reading Clerks, Elder H. L. Findley and Bro. J. H. Berry.

The Letters from the Churches were then called for and read, and names of Delegates and Statistics entered on the Minutes.

On a motion, an opportunity was given for churches to unite with this body, when Shiloh, Macedonia and Bethel Churches were received, and the right hand of fellowship extended to their Delegates.

On a motion, the rule was suspended that delegates present without letters from their churches be entitled to a vote for Moderator and Clerk.

The Association went into an election for Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the choice of Elder L. Ball, as Moderator, and E. Smyth, Clerk. Elders M. P. Lowery and R. Rice acting as tellers of election.

The following Committees were then appointed:

On Arrangement of Business to come before this body—Elders James Boswell, I. Smith, W. L. Reynolds, and Bros. J. H. Berry and J. B. Gambrel.

On Preaching—N. B. Leatherwood and H. Pitts, with the Pastor and Deacons of Cherry Creek church.

On the State of Religion in the Bounds of this Association—Elders S. Lawrence, J. Smith and T. Gorly.

On Documents—Elder J. T. Pitts and Bros. N. S. Watson and N. Vernor.

On Finance—Elder M. H. Moody and Bros. A. W. Funk and J. N. Martin.

On Sabbath Schools—Bro. J. H. Berry and Elders J. Boswell and W. L. Reynolds.

On Temperance—Elder J. T. Pitts and Bros. H. S. Plant and N. S. Watson.

On the Reciprocal Duty of Pastors to their Churches and Churches to their Pastors—Elders H. L. Findley, J. C. Hale and Bro. J. B. Gambrel.

On the Bible Cause—Elders W. L. Reynolds, H. Pritchard, and Bro. J. B. Fuller.

Adjourned to 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.

Prayer by Elder C. B. Young.

SATURDAY MORNING, 8½ O'CLOCK.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder A. J. Parrot.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

The Committee on Arrangement made their Report, which was adopted, as follows:

The Committee on Arrangement of Business beg leave to recommend the following:

1. Read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Abstract of Principles.
2. Call for Correspondence from Sister Associations.
3. Invite Visiting Brethren from Sister Associations, and Ministering Brethren of our own, to Seats with us.
4. Appoint Corresponding Messengers to Sister Associations and to the State Convention, and Brethren to Write.
5. Appoint the Place for the next Meeting of the Association.
6. Elect Ministers to Preach the next Introductory Sermons.
7. Call for the Report of the Executive Board.
8. Call for the Treasurer's Report.
9. Elect the Executive Board.
10. Call for the Reports of Committees.
11. Call for Resolutions and General Business.

JAMES BOSWELL, Chairman.

Read the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Abstract of Principles.

Called for Correspondence, when a letter was received and read from the Tippah Association, borne by the hands of Elders A. J. Parrot and M. P. Lowery.

From the Tishomingo Association, a letter by the hand of Bro. L. R. Burress.

From the Yalobusha Association, a letter, but no Messenger.

From the Aberdeen Association, a letter by the hands of Elder A. G. Seal and Bros. T. Rodgers and Z. J. Berry.

From the Coldwater Association, a minute by the hands of Elders C. B. Young, A. B. Smith, and Bros. T. H. Smith and A. Pasly.

From the Judson Association, Elders A. L. Stoval, J. J. Andrews, C. B. McNeal and A. Rice.

APPOINTMENT OF CORRESPONDENTS.

To the Tishomingo Association—N. Vernor, N. B. Leatherwood, N. S. Watson, J. W. Norris and J. H. Berry.

To the Aberdeen Association—Elders H. L. Findley, J. Smith, L. Ball, I. Smith, and Bros. H. T. Pitts and W. C. Gilland.

To the Coldwater Association—Elders M. H. Moody, W. L. Farmer, W. L. Reynolds, I. Smith, L. Ball, D. Potter, H. L. Findley, and Bro. J. Moody.

To the Baptist State Convention—Elders L. Ball, H. L. Findley, W. L. Reynolds, J. C. Hale, M. H. Moody, I. Smith, D. Potter, and Bros. J. H. Berry and E. Smyth.

To the Judson Association—Elders D. I. Smith, L. Ball, D. Potter, and Bros. J. B. Gambrel, E. Smyth and A. W. Funk.

Appointed the next session of this body to be holden with the Temperance Hill church, Marshall county, Miss., ten miles southeast of Holly Springs.

On a motion, agreed to dispense with the appointment of a Minister to preach a Missionary sermon; also, that Elder L. Ball be released from the appointment given him for to-morrow, as appears in last year's Minutes.

Adjourned to 1½ o'clock to hear a sermon from Elder A. L. Stoval.

Prayer by Elder R. Rice.

EVENING SESSION.

Met at 2 o'clock. Prayer by Elder M. H. Moody.

Went into an election for a Minister to preach the next Introductory sermon, when Elder L. Ball was chosen, and J. T. Pitts, alternate.

Elected as an Executive Board, J. H. Berry, E. Smyth, F. Souter, N. B. Leatherwood and H. T. Pitts.

The Committee on the State of Religion made their Repo which was read, received and adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

We, your Committee on the State of Religion, beg leave to report the followin

While a few of the churches within our bounds, by the blessing of God, seem be enjoying a revival of religion, and others, by reproof, rebuke and exhortati are of late aroused to a more faithful discharge of their Christian duties, the great number by far are in a cold condition; and, alas! some are evidently swiftly the decline in spiritual prosperity. A dearth pervades our cause. An alarmi inactivity characterizes our present state of action. Unusual indifference, and eve slothfulness in the Lord's business, displays itself in some localities among th professed servants of Christ. While this is so, let us inquire as to the cause. Th Lord has not changed. His ears are yet open to the cries of his people. The mean of grace are ever the same; yea, and are even now within our reach. And whil the drooping cause of our blessed Master calls aloud for some excuse for us, Heave grants none; God's Word is silent, and conscience bars the deceitful apologies of th carnal mind. We, his people, then, are at fault. For the neglect of the proper us of the means of grace we now suffer. The ministry of God's Word is too much neglected. Ministers are in some cases insufficiently active, and churches withhold the Lord's money which should be given for the support of His embassadors. Sab bath schools, said to be "the nursery of the church," are "few and far between." Prayer meetings are neglected, wofully neglected. Perhaps, not within a half dozen churches within our bounds does a regular prayer meeting now exist. These are facts, stubborn facts, *unpalatable* truths, but it is right that we should consider them, that our present and future efforts for good may correspond with the magnitude of the evil with which we have to contend. The limits of this paper will not admit that we should refer in detail as to the remedy for these things, but *as* a first step allow us to recommend that the delegates present from each church proceed at once, so soon as they return home, to institute, and by God's grace carry on, with the help of others, a prayer meeting at their church, or in its vicinity. And let us all, here and elsewhere, agree as touching the one thing in our prayers and supplications, viz: a revival of God's work. And let us ever be ready, since we are not our own, but the Lord's, to devote our talents and our means wholly to his service, ever "having an eye single" to the prosperity of His cause, His honor and eternal glory, in all our words and actions.

ST. CLAIR LAWRENCE, Chairman.

The Committee on Finance made their Report which was agreed to.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning.
Prayer by Elder T. Gorly.

MONDAY MORNING.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. T. H. Smith.

The Executive Board made their Report through its chairman, J. H. Berry, which was adopted:

The Executive Board beg leave to report, That in consequence of the terrible war through which we have passed, and the prostrated condition of the country, our means have been limited and our operations small. We have had the services of our esteemed Bro. Findley, as our Missionary, a portion of his time. In his report he says: "I spent four months in the field, traveled one thousand miles, preached one hundred sermons, delivered seventy-five exhortations, assisted in the constitution of one church and ordination of one minister, and baptized thirty converts. I spent most of the time in the southwest part of the Association, occupying two stations—one near the mouth of Tippah, the other at Abbeville. I visited

every destitute neighborhood south of the Tallahatchie river, and preached when circumstances would allow. I would call special attention to the Abbeville country as a very important field to be occupied by the Baptists; also, to some very destitute neighborhoods, north of the river, that I was not able to supply." Your Board deeply regret that they had no Bibles and Testaments to send to the destitute neighborhoods by our faithful Missionary. Upon inquiry it has been found that in the most favored sections of our country considerable destitution exists in reference to Bibles, Testaments and Sabbath school books. Throughout, then, our entire bounds a very considerable demand exists. Upon you, dear brethren, and the churches you represent, devolves the responsibility of furnishing a supply. Shall we withhold our means whilst our dying fellow-men are famishing for the Word of Life? Of all obligations those which are due to God should be most promptly met. As we receive all our worldly goods from His bountiful hand, should we not pay back at least a part to advance His blessed cause? The path of obedience is the only path of safety, and what we do must be done quickly. Dear brethren, let our plans for earth be meager and scanty in proportion to the shortness and uncertainty of the time in which we have to execute them. But let our plans for Heaven, and for the cause of Christ, be broad and expansive in proportion to the momentous interest involved. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOEL H. BERRY, Chairman.

After several able and interesting speeches were made, showing the importance of sustaining the Home Mission cause, pledges and cash were taken amounting to $429.

Adjourned to hear a sermon by Elder A. J. Parrot.

EVENING SESSION.

Met at 2 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. Boswell.

The Treasurer made his Report, which was agreed to.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

ELIJAH SMYTH, *Treasurer, in Account with the Chickasaw Association.*

DOMESTIC MISSION.

DR.

Sept. 15, 1866.	To amount received of Financial Committee	$ 6 00		
" "	Received J. B. Fuller	5 00		
" "	" W. E. Owens	5 00		
" "	" Friendship church	10 00		
" "	" W. L. Reynolds	10 00		
" 16, 1866,	" Cherry Creek church	32 50		
" "	" public collection on Sabbath	41 90		
" "	" from the freedmen	2 70		
" "	" collection in the Association	10 50		
" "	" Mt. Pisgah church	4 30		
" "	" subscription made at the last Association	75 00	$192 90	

CR.

Sept. 17, 1866, By amount paid Elder H. L. Findley, as Missionary, by subscription	$ 75 00	
By cash	105 00	$180 00
Due by Treasurer to balance		$ 12 90

FOR MINUTES.

DR.

Sept. 16, 1865, To amount received of Financial Committee	$ 66 30		
" 1866, " " " " "	59 00	$125 30	

CR.

By resolution of the Association	$ 10 00	
November, 1865, By amount paid for printing Minutes of 1865, as per receipt of printer	55 00	$ 65 00
Due by Treasurer to balance		$ 60 30

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. SMYTH, Treasurer.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools made their Report, which was agreed to, as follows:

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report, That the obligation to observe the Christian Sabbath, as a day of devotion and religious improvement, is universal. Immortal beings destined to a vast eternity are not exempt from this duty, from the time they cross the line of accountability until they are called to their final account. The great work of life is to prepare for heaven. One of the most blessed means to accomplish this end is the regular and systematic study of God's Holy Word. No one who can read is too young; none too old to be thus engaged. Sabbath schools have heretofore been established for this purpose, but have been confined almost exclusively to the young. The older members of the church have generally stood aloof, just as if they had no minds to improve, no religious knowledge to obtain, and no holy influence to exert. And too generally, Sabbath schools, after having a short and flickering existence, *languish and die* for the want of the co-operation of the older members of the church. The young can scarcely be induced to persevere in a study which their fathers persistently neglect. Thus, the example and influence of parents and others are thrown into the same scale with him, of whom the Lord said, "I have written to him the great things out of my law, and he regarded them as a strange thing." Brethren, is this true? Have our example, influence and practice indicated that we have treated the Word of God as a *strange* thing? Has this message from heaven been slighted by us? Has its sacred pages lain upon our shelves *unread*, its momentous truths *unheard*, and its Divine Author *unhonored*? Instead of using efforts to give the living oracles a potent voice—to *warn*, to *instruct*, to *enlighten*, to point the way from earth to heaven—have we used our influence and example to hush them to silence—silent to our own souls, and silent to those under our immediate influence? Awake, thou that sleepest! Arouse from a slumber that leads to death! Burst asunder the fetters that have bound thee to earth, and to the pathway of mental and moral darkness! Put on the whole armor of God, and wield with all your strength the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God. Then shall your influence for good be like a mighty wave on a shoreless ocean, that rolls on, and on, and be felt for good throughout time and in vast eternity. Will any who hear or read these lines any longer treat the Word of Life as a *strange* thing? Will any attempt hereafter to shield themselves with excuses that will be heard with impatience upon earth, and be rejected in heaven? God, in mercy, forbid it! But let all come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty. Let all other systems of education be subordinate to that which imparts a knowledge of the Word of God, which alone is calculated, by His blessing, to light up our pathway to heaven. To this end, let Sabbath schools embracing *all*—the aged and the young—be established at every church, or in every neighborhood, or in every family, as circumstances may require. "Then shalt thou call the Sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord honorable, and shalt honor Him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words; then shalt thou delight thyself in the Lord, and I will cause thee to ride upon the high places of the earth, and feed thee with the heritage of Jacob, thy father, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it."—Isaiah, 58. Then shalt thou "walk in the light of the Lord" and "thy rest shall be glorious."

JOEL H. BERRY, Chairman.

The Committee on the Bible Cause made their Report, which was adopted, as follows:

The Committee appointed to report on the Bible Cause, offer the following:

It is believed that this Cause, notwithstanding our former labors, is one which should receive our earnest attention and cordial support. Many individuals as well as families are yet unsupplied with the precious Word of Eternal Truth. Then, brethren, while other kindred objects are receiving a portion of our means, our prayers and labors, let us not forget this, the great corner stone, which supports the Spiritual Temple of our blessed Redeemer. It is the Word of God showing us, in

characters of living light, the way of Life and Salvation. Oh, what a treasure the Bible is! How dark would be our pathway without it! What moral darkness would envelop our country! Without it, how soon would desolation and ruin take the place of prosperity, intelligence and religion! Then let us not relax our efforts until every family in the land has a copy of the blessed volume in their house.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. L. REYNOLDS, Chairman.

The regular order of business was suspended, when, on application, letters of dismission were granted to Pleasant Hill, Bethel and Pine Grove churches.

The Committee on Documents made the following Report, which was agreed to:

The Committee on Documents recommend the following: The special attention of the brethren is called to the *Christian Repository*, also, to the *Christian Index*, of which Bro. M. P. Lowery is an agent and contributor. We recommend the publication of so much of the Minutes of the First District meeting as relates to stated sermons and essays, the names of brethren who are appointed to preach sermons and write essays, and place and time of meeting, and the place of the meeting of the Second District. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. T. PITTS, Chairman.

The First District meeting will be held with the Fellowship Church, commencing Thursday before the third Sabbath in August, 1867—Elder I. Smith to preach the Introductory Sermon, J. T. Pitts, alternate; Elder L. Ball to preach to Ministers and Deacons, J. Boswell, alternate.

QUERIES PREPARED FOR DISCUSSION.

1. Has one Baptist Minister the Scriptural right to ordain another to the work of the ministry without the co-operation of other Baptist Ministers?
2. When a Deacon proves himself unworthy of his office, has the Church the right to take the Deaconship from him?
3. Has the Church the right to extend forgiveness to one of her members when he has been guilty of a public offense?
4. What course should a Church pursue with a member who repeatedly absents him, or herself from the communion table?

ESSAYS, WITH THE NAMES OF THE WRITERS.

ELDER L. BALL—On the Millenium.
ELDER D. POTTER—On the Duty of Pastors to their Churches and Churches to their Pastors.
ELDER D. I. SMITH—Importance of keeping the Sabbath.
ELDER J. T. PITTS—Fulfillment of the Prophecies.
BRO. J. B. HERRING—The relation that exists between Christ and the believer.
N. M. BERRY—Utility of Sabbath Schools.
J. L. BOSWELL—Necessity of Piety in Youth.
N. S. WATSON—The importance of Church Members attending their Conference meeting.
J. S. BERRY—Christian Consistency.

The next meeting of the Second District will be held with the Philadelphia Church, beginning on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1867.

Adjourned to 8½ o'clock to-morrow morning.
Prayer by Elder J. T. Freeman.

TUESDAY MORNING, 9 O'CLOCK.

Met. Prayer by Elder D. I. Smith.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

The Committee on the Relative Duties of Pastors to their Churches and Churches to their Pastors made their Report, which was received and adopted, as follows:

Your Committee to report on the Relative Duties of Pastors and Churches would present the following: The duties of Pastors are serious and arduous. First. "They are to take heed to themselves and to the flock over which the Holy Spirit has made them overseers," (pastors)—Acts, 20: 28. Second. They are to "feed the flock of God that is among them, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock."—1st Peter, 5: 2, 3. Third. They must "study to show themselves approved of God; workmen that needest not to be ashamed of their work, rightly dividing the Word of Truth."—2d Timothy, 2: 15. Fourth. They are to "give themselves wholly to the work, for no man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please Him that called him to be a soldier."—2d Timothy, 2: 4. Hence the duties devolving upon Pastors require their whole time, talents and energies.

The duties of Churches are clear, from the following Scriptures: First. "And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labor among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love, for their work's sake."—1st Thessalonians, 5: 12, 13. Second. "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn." "Who goeth a warfare any time at his own charge?" "Who planteth a vineyard and eateth not of the fruit thereof?" "Or, who feedeth a flock and eateth not of the milk thereof?" If we have sown unto you spiritual things, is it a great thing if we shall reap of your carnal things." "Do ye not know that they which minister about holy things live of the things of the temple, and they which wait at the altar are partakers with the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel."—1st Cor., 9. In conclusion, your Committee would submit that the divine relation existing between the Pastors and Churches require that the foregoing Scriptures be complied with upon the part of both, and that this is necessary to the prosperity and perpetuity of both. All of which is respectfully submitted.

H. L. FINDLEY, Chairman.

Committee on Temperance made their Report, which was adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to report, That Temperance is a subject of great and vital importance, and although much has been said and done to influence the public mind against the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage, we regret to say that the evil still exists. Though we are taught in the Scriptures that Temperance is one of the cardinal virtues of religion, that a curse is pronounced upon the vender, wo and sorrow upon the consumer, yet we see a disregard of all this, even by some who occupy a place in the Church of God, and profess to be His children. Those who have put on Christ should follow His example, obey His precepts, and walk in the light even as He is in the light. The command to shun every appearance of evil should of itself be sufficient, if there was no other, to influence us to abstain from the practice even of moderate dram-drinking, which is, indeed, the nursery in which are bred all the inebriates in the land. Temperance societies, though they have accomplished much, have failed to put a stop to the progress of this evil. Legislative enactments have also failed. To the Church of Christ alone we look for the removal of this extensive and withering curse from our midst. All which is respectfully submitted.

J. T. PITTS, Chairman.

The Committee to write Corresponding Letters made their Report by reading the Letters, which were adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, That the Pastors of the respective Churches in our bounds are hereby affectionately requested, so soon as the Minutes shall have been received, to lay the Sabbath School Report before the Churches, and urge the adoption of the *plan proposed* in said Report.

Resolved, That during the winter season the plan of *Family* Sabbath Schools, embracing one or more families, be respectfully recommended and affectionately urged.

Resolved, That Pastors be further requested to take up a small collection for Sabbath School Books for each Church, which funds may be sent up, if desired, through the Executive Board, by the 1st of January, 1867.

Resolved, That any amount that can be collected of the pledges from Churches and individuals, which have been made during the present Session of this Body for Missionary purposes for the next year, be paid over to the Executive Board, by the 1st January next, for the purpose of enabling the same to operate successfully in the good and great work.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to the Moderator and Clerk for the able and satisfactory manner in which they have discharged their respective duties.

Resolved, That the Clerk be requested to have as many copies of the Minutes of this session of our body printed as the money will procure, and to reserve ten dollars for his services.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due and are hereby tendered to the Church at this place, and the citizens generally in the vicinity, for their kind reception and hospitable entertainment during our present Session.

Resolved, That Elder J. C. Hale be requested to act as distributing agent of the Minutes of this Session in the Second District.

Adjourned, after an affectionate address by the Moderator and singing one of the songs of Zion, to meet with the Temperance Hill Church on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1867.

L. BALL, Moderator.

E. SMYTH, Clerk.

EXERCISES ON SABBATH.

At 11 o'clock, at the stand in a beautiful grove, Elder C. B. Young preached to a large and attentive concourse of people.

At 2 o'clock, Elder M. P. Lowery preached to the congregation with much zeal and ability.

At night, in the house, Elder J. T. Freeman preached to a very large congregation, the fruits of which will be realized in eternity.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	POST OFFICE.	Sabbath Meetings.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Received by Letter.	Dismissed by Letter.	Restored.	Excluded.	Deceased.	Colored Members.	For Minutes
Amaziah	W. L. Reynolds	Cornersville	1st	W. L. Reynolds, N. Vernor, T. Swain*		4	2		4		5	$3.00
Acadama	M. P. Lowery	Orizaba	1st	W. B. Leatherwood, N. S. Watson, J. Norris, W. T. Ratcliff	36	19	15	15	6	3	77	5.00
Antioch												
Bethel	J. C. Hale	Rocky Ford	2d	J. N. Martin, W. Todd, Jas. Todd	12	4	4		3	7	2	2.25
Cypress Creek	H. L. Findley	Lafayette Sprgs	4th	F. M. Tooral,* W. P. Gadsby,* Jas. Carter	6	9	15	1	2		18	2.00
Cherry Creek	J. T. Pitts	Cherry Creek	2d	L. Ball, J. T. Pitts, D. T. Smith, E. Smyth.		7	8		21	41	3	8.25
Clear Creek	G. H. Savage	Union Mills	2d	I. I. Slack, W. Shackelford, R. Millican	1	2	4			1		1.50
Fellowship	Jas. Boswell	Ripley	2d	J. H. Berry, F. D. Adams,* R. H. Cox								1.25
Friendship	J. Boswell	Pontotoc	3d	J. Samter, W. T. Austin, E. A. F. Wesson.		1	1					
Liberty	J. Boswell	Taylyville	4th	J. Boswell, S. H. Plant, B. J. Caldwell	1	2	3		7	2	4	1.50
Mt. Pleasant	No pastor	Waterville	1st	I. Smith, D. Potter, A. W. Funk		1	2		6		15	2.50
Mt. Pisgah	J. Smith	Rocky Ford	3d	W. L. Wortell, S. H. Ferguson, H. Merritt.	15	5	2		1	3	7	2.25
New Hope	J. T. Pitts	Pontotoc	1st	H. Pitts, W. T. Neely, W. Smith	9	6	10	4	2			1.50
Pleasant Ridge	S. D. Kendall	Molino	4th	W. S. Greer, J. C. Hiett, G. B. Gambrel	29		11	2	1	1		2.25
Pleasant Hill, Pont. Co	I. Smith	Molino	2d	W. C. Bennett,* G. W. Hall, J. B. Read	43	10	15					4.00
Philadelphia	H. L. Findley	Rocky Ford	1st	A. R. Wilson,* J. A. Baker,* S. H. Store	16	3	3	3	1		26	3.00
Poplar Spring	Not represented											
Piney Grove	T. Gorly	Tocopola	4th	T. Gorly, J. Johnston, W. Pritchard*		22	7		3		1	1.25
Spring Hill	No pastor	Pontotoc	2d	S. Laurens, F. Souter, S. H. Wood*	5	5	26	2	5	2	5	3.00
Spring Creek	W. L. Farmer	Waterford	2d	M. H. Moody, J. Yaunt,* W. J. Vickers*			4		7		6	1.00
Washington	James Johnson	Lafayette Sprgs	1st	J. C. Hale,* F. Wright, A. J. Hunt*	1	1	2		2	1	11	1.50
Shady Grove	J. T. Pitts	Cherry Creek	4th	A. Shettels								1.00
Temperance Hill	W. L. Farmer	Holly Springs	3d	J. Moody, J. Odom, J. T. Moody	31	5	3	1	1		2	5.00
Shiloh	J. Crossly	Lafayette Sprgs	1st	J. S. Niles,* H. Welch, D. Singleterry.	2				1		12	1.60
Macedonia	T. Gorly	Red Land	3d	W. Smith, W. Bowles* H. McWhorter*	2						8	1.80
Bethel, Lafayette Co.	F. M. Tooral	Oxford	4th	M. G. Night, T. G. Woston, A. L. Hodges.								1.50

*Absent.